

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 744

To amend title 18, United States Code, to discourage spyware, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2005

Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. HALL, and Mr. WOLF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to discourage spyware, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Internet Spyware (I-
5 SPY) Prevention Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVI-**
2 **TIES RELATING TO COMPUTERS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1030
5 the following:

6 **“§ 1030A. Illicit indirect use of protected computers**

7 “(a) Whoever intentionally accesses a protected com-
8 puter without authorization, or exceeds authorized access
9 to a protected computer, by causing a computer program
10 or code to be copied onto the protected computer, and in-
11 tentiously uses that program or code in furtherance of
12 another Federal criminal offense shall be fined under this
13 title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

14 “(b) Whoever intentionally accesses a protected com-
15 puter without authorization, or exceeds authorized access
16 to a protected computer, by causing a computer program
17 or code to be copied onto the protected computer, and by
18 means of that program or code—

19 “(1) intentionally obtains, or transmits to an-
20 other, personal information with the intent to de-
21 fraud or injure a person or cause damage to a pro-
22 tected computer; or

23 “(2) intentionally impairs the security protec-
24 tion of the protected computer;

25 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than
26 2 years, or both.

1 “(c) No person may bring a civil action under the
2 law of any State if such action is premised in whole or
3 in part upon the defendant’s violating this section. For
4 the purposes of this subsection, the term ‘State’ includes
5 the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other terri-
6 tory or possession of the United States.

7 “(d) As used in this section—

8 “(1) the terms ‘protected computer’ and ‘ex-
9 ceeds authorized access’ have, respectively, the
10 meanings given those terms in section 1030; and

11 “(2) the term ‘personal information’ means—

12 “(A) a first and last name;

13 “(B) a home or other physical address, in-
14 cluding street name;

15 “(C) an electronic mail address;

16 “(D) a telephone number;

17 “(E) a Social Security number, tax identi-
18 fication number, drivers license number, pass-
19 port number, or any other government-issued
20 identification number; or

21 “(F) a credit card or bank account number
22 or any password or access code associated with
23 a credit card or bank account.

24 “(e) This section does not prohibit any lawfully au-
25 thorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of

1 a law enforcement agency of the United States, a State,
 2 or a political subdivision of a State, or of an intelligence
 3 agency of the United States.”.

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 5 tions at the beginning of chapter 47 of title 18, United
 6 States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-
 7 ing to section 1030 the following new item:

“1030A. Illicit indirect use of protected computers.”.

8 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 In addition to any other sums otherwise authorized
 10 to be appropriated for this purpose, there are authorized
 11 to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2006 through
 12 2009, the sum of \$10,000,000 to the Attorney General
 13 for prosecutions needed to discourage the use of spyware
 14 and the practice commonly called phishing.

15 **SEC. 4. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS CONCERNING** 16 **THE ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN** 17 **CYBERCRIMES.**

18 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
 19 ings:

20 (1) Software and electronic communications are
 21 increasingly being used by criminals to invade indi-
 22 viduals’ and businesses’ computers without author-
 23 ization.

24 (2) Two particularly egregious types of such
 25 schemes are the use of spyware and phishing scams.

1 (3) These schemes are often used to obtain per-
2 sonal information, such as bank account and credit
3 card numbers, which can then be used as a means
4 to commit other types of theft.

5 (4) In addition to the devastating damage that
6 these heinous activities can inflict on individuals and
7 businesses, they also undermine the confidence that
8 citizens have in using the Internet.

9 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Because of the serious
10 nature of these offenses, and the Internet’s unique impor-
11 tance in the daily lives of citizens and in interstate com-
12 merce, it is the sense of Congress that the Department
13 of Justice should use the amendments made by this Act,
14 and all other available tools, vigorously to prosecute those
15 who use spyware to commit crimes and those that conduct
16 phishing scams.

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